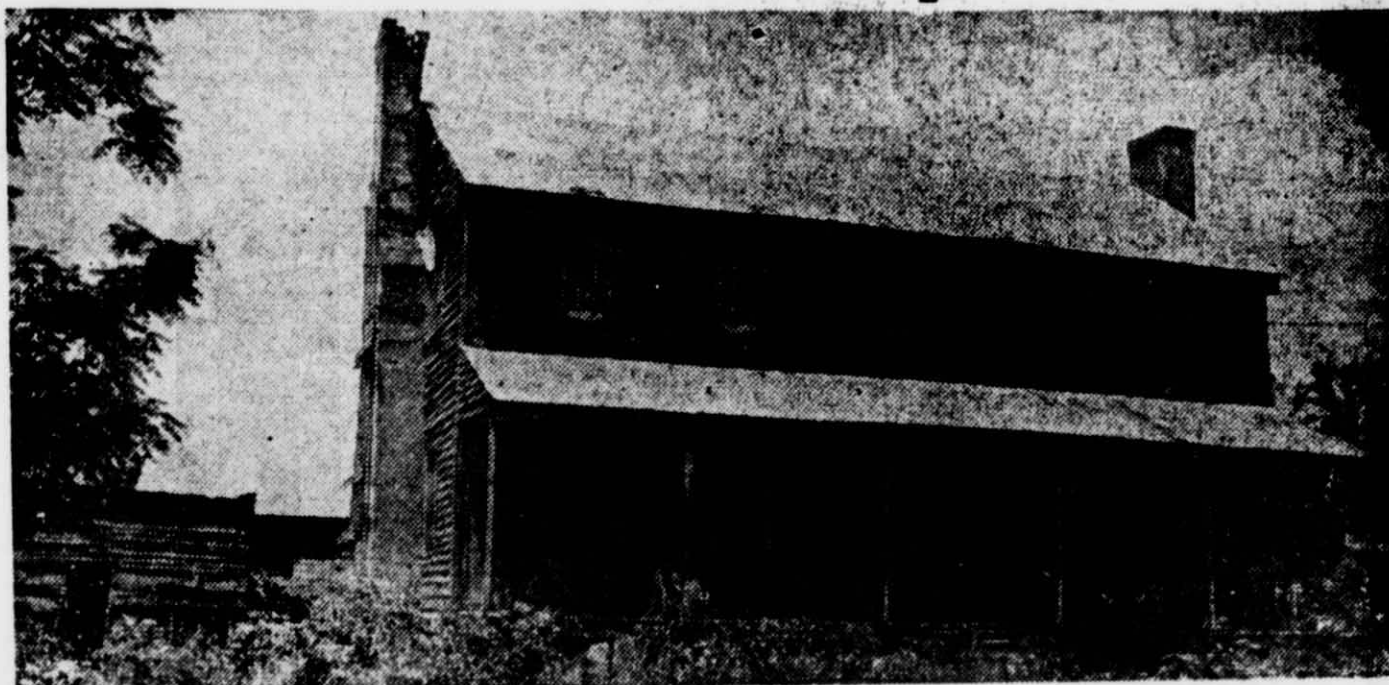


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S.C. - Homes, Historic - York County

Barnett House History Is Obscured By Time



Evening Herald July 28, 1949 Barnett Home . . . long, long, ago

Ed Allen Is Now Owner Of Property

Evening Herald - July 28, 1949
By ELIZABETH REED

Not too much is known about the old Barnett house which stands on a rise near Twin Lakes some five miles Northwest of Rock Hill. The property is now owned by Ed Allen of Rock Hill.

Mr. Allen, W. B. Wilson, Rock Hill attorney and a former owner, S. H. Hutchinson of the India Hook community, Dr. D. A. Bigger and the Rock Hill public library have all furnished some information on the old home.

The House

The larger than average two-story house with a chimney at each end, is today in fair condition. It was probably built as the sturdy and large farm home of a prosperous land-owning family. The mantels are of a simple design with very little of the hand carving that distinguished many early York County homes.

The stair rail is also simple and unpretentious. The rooms are finished with wide or random width horizontal pine boards. Except where they have been patched the floors are the original boards. Pegs and hand hewn timbers mark the house as among York County's oldest.

Still to be seen a little distance from the home is the old log building that evidently formerly was the kitchen. The house itself is of logs that have been weatherboarded over many years ago.

Living in the house today are Lewis and Alberta Hunt with their

16 offspring, ranging in age from one to about 20. Also residing in the house are a number of grandchildren. Luckily for them the house is big and roomy and this unusually large family can find comfortable quarters under its shelter.

Mr. Wilson says that some of the former owners of the house have been the Bayes family, Dr. W. G. Stevens, and in earlier days the Barnetts.

S. H. Hutchinson, old York County citizen, remembers that when he himself was a small boy, Joel Barnett owned the house and about 750 acres of land. Mr. Hutchinson can remember back as far as the 1870's. He himself lived nearby and remembers that the house was old even then.

He also recalls that Joel Barnett had two sons, Dr. John Barnett who went west and was a fine physician in his day, and Dr. G. F. Barnett who died not so many years ago. As a little boy Hutchinson recalls that Joel Barnett ran a cotton gin and that the farm supported a lot of sheep. He also remembers that in addition to the present log kitchen many other outbuildings existed in those long gone days.

A search of old wills in the Rock Hill Public Library reveals none for Joel Barnett. However, he is named as the executor in the will of Richard Barnett whose will was probated in 1834. This will lists Frances Parham Barnett as the wife of Richard and names his two sons, John Allen and Josiah. Joel S. was probably a brother of Richard.

Dr. Bigger believes that Joel's father was named Richard. Dr. Bigger says that the branch of the Barnett family that lived in the Bethel community was known as the "Rivert Barnetts". He also says that the original spelling of the name was Barnet, which later became Barnett and in some instances Barnette.

Other early York county Barnett families have been John Barnett whose will was probated in 1807 and whose wife is listed as

Elizabeth and whose son and daughter were John and Polly Carter; Thomas whose will was probated in 1825 and whose children are listed as Nancy Price, Sarah Elms, Ann Barnett, Elizabeth Meacham, Thomas, George G. and his wife Ann Barnett.

The will of Rachel Barnett was probated in 1857. Her children were listed as James A., William A. Alexander H., Martha P. Currence, Eliza McKenzie, Mary C. Margaret Wallace. Her grandchildren named in the will are Ann Bigger, Martha McLean, Alexander B. Bigger, and Moses A. Bigger. She was the wife of Alexander.